

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for effecting a transaction between a person and a provider over a network, said method comprising:

storing, in a database, a plurality of unique biometric traits of the person and a plurality of provider files, the plurality of provider files being respectively associated with a plurality of providers and with the plurality of unique biometric traits such that each one of the plurality of provider files is unique to at most one of the plurality of providers and to at most one of the plurality of unique biometric traits;

establishing a communication link over said network between a communication device and a selected one of said plurality of providers;

acquiring, at said communication device, at least one purchase selection provided by the person;

transmitting, from said communication device to said selected provider, the at least one purchase selection;

receiving, at said communication device from said selected provider, an order form for carrying out a transaction based on the at least one selection;

generating, using a biometric device, a unique biometric trait associated with the person;

comparing, at said biometric device, the generated unique biometric trait to the plurality of unique biometric traits stored in the database; and

in response to determining that the generated unique biometric trait substantially matches one of the stored unique biometric traits,

automatically locating in the database, using the matched one of the stored unique biometric traits, the corresponding one of the plurality of provider files,

retrieving, from the located one of the plurality of provider files, a credit card number and personal information associated with the person and with the corresponding one of the plurality of providers,

automatically completing, at said communication device, the received order form using the retrieved credit card number and the retrieved personal information, and

automatically transmitting, to the provider from said communication device, the completed form and a verification code.

2. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein

said communication device is selected from the group consisting of a wireless communication device and a wired communication device,

said wireless communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a PDA, a cell phone, a satellite broadcasting receiver terminal, and a portable computer, and

said wired communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, a server computer, a point-of-sale terminal, an automatic teller machine (ATM), a cable receiver terminal, and a landline telephone.

3. - 9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein said biometric device comprises a fingerprint analyzer, and said generated unique identification trait and said plurality of stored unique identification traits include data identifying a plurality of fingerprints.

11. (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the verification code is associated with the person.

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, further comprising providing at least one of a visual indication and an audible indication that directs said person to cause said biometric device to perform said generating step.

15. - 108. (cancelled)

109. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the verification code authorizes said provider to complete said transaction.

110. - 122. (cancelled)

123. (currently amended) A communication device, comprising:

a database that stores a plurality of unique biometric traits of the person and a plurality of provider files, the plurality of provider files being respectively associated with a plurality of providers and with the plurality of unique biometric traits such that each one of the plurality of provider files is unique to at most one of the plurality of providers and to at most one of the plurality of unique biometric traits;

a network connection device that establishes a communication link over a network with a selected one of the plurality of providers;

an input device that acquires at least one purchase selection provided by the person;

said network connection device transmits the at least one purchase selection to said selected provider, and receives from said selected provider an order form for carrying out a transaction based on the at least one purchase selection;

a biometric device that generates a unique biometric trait associated with the person and compares the generated unique biometric trait to the plurality of unique biometric traits stored in the database; and

a processor that, in response to determining that the generated unique biometric trait substantially matches one of the stored unique biometric traits, automatically locates the corresponding one of the plurality of provider files in the database, retrieves from the located one of the plurality of provider files a credit card number and personal information associated with the person and with the corresponding one of the plurality of providers, automatically completes the received order form using the retrieved credit card number and the retrieved personal information, and automatically causes said network connection device to transmit to the provider the completed form and a verification signal.

124. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein

said communication device is selected from the group consisting of a wireless communication device and a wired communication device,

said wireless communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a PDA, a cell phone, a satellite broadcasting receiver terminal, and a portable computer, and

said wired communication device being further selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, a server computer, a point-of-sale terminal, an automatic teller machine (ATM), a cable receiver terminal, and a landline telephone.

125. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein said biometric device comprises a fingerprint

analyzer, and said generated unique identification trait and said plurality of stored unique identification traits include data identifying a plurality of fingerprints.

126. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein the verification code is associated with the person.

127. (previously presented) A communication device as in claim 123, wherein the verification code authorizes the provider to complete the transaction.

128. - 132. (cancelled)